

Fair, colder tonight. Clear tomorrow.

The Washington Times

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WARSHIPS WANTED TO TEACH CHINESE NEEDED LESSON

Suggestion That Fleet Be Sent to Peking Meets Favor.

BOYCOTT YET IN FORCE

Southern Provinces Aflame With Ill Feeling Against American Goods.

Considerable apprehension was aroused in official and diplomatic circles today as a result of the report from Peking that the British legation guards had been warned that trouble is impending, that the secretary of the German legation has obtained an additional field battery, and the statement that is attributed to Edward M. Conner, former minister to China, to the effect that serious trouble is imminent, and the United States should issue to China a warning of unmistakable terms. The reported suggestion of the former minister that the Asiatic fleet be sent to the sea shore of Peking is approved by many Government officials.

These reports only tend to corroborate recent reports that have come out of the Celestial empire to American business houses, and representatives of foreign governments, as well as to the State Department. Many American concerns heavily interested in China are receiving detailed reports and keeping in close communication with their agents in Chinese cities, and their advice is almost generally to the effect that the situation is even more threatening than it was previous to the Boxer outbreak in 1900.

Alarming Reports Sent.

Equally alarming reports, it is known, have reached the State Department the past few weeks, from the American diplomatic and consular representatives in different parts of the Chinese empire, and it was on the strength of these advices that the War and Navy departments were asked to augment their forces in the Orient.

Much hope was placed by the Administration in the visit of the Chinese Imperial commission to this country, and it was thought that it would be the means of bringing the two countries closer together, of creating a stronger and closer friendly interest between the American and Chinese governments as well as between the commercial interests of the two countries.

Favorable reports were cabled by the commissioners from Washington to their government, and even after having visited New York and Boston, when the reports indicated the conditions were serious, the Chinese visitors cabled urgent assurances and appeals to their government, insisting that their dispatches be published by the viceroys of the different provinces.

These reports most likely would have had good effect had it not become known here that the American Government doubted the sincerity of the Chinese government in discouraging the boycott and general anti-foreign movement, these reports have reached China with no desirable results. Through an European news agency this information has been disseminated to the trouble some classes throughout the Chinese empire, and now, it is understood, reports of the ill effects of this publicity are being cabled to Washington by representatives of this Government in China. This only arouses a more bitter feeling, it is said, and the Administration has already manifested a sudden determination to give a less alarming complexion to the situation.

Money Needed for Transportation.

The Administration still is having its troubles with the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the indications are now that Secretary Taft will not be allowed the \$100,000 needed for the transportation of extra troops being sent to the Philippines and housing them while they are being kept in the islands.

Although it was announced Tuesday that Secretary Taft would appear before the committee Wednesday and explain the Chinese situation as it really exists, a shift in the program suddenly was made, and the Senate committee still is ignorant of the real situation.

The State Department this morning gave out extracts of reports on the situation.

In neither of these reports is there any hint of threatened violence or of an intention to injure the persons or property of foreigners. The movement is, in fact, confined strictly to trade limits, according to this information.

South China Aflame.

South China, which has been the storm center of boycott activity from the beginning, continues to furnish the most radical tendencies of the movement. Singapore merchants are among the most rabid of the boycotters.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

The weather will continue cold to night in the lower lake region, the Ohio valley, and the east and west States, followed by slowly rising temperature Friday. It will be colder tonight on the Atlantic coast, with a freezing temperature on the Carolina and Georgia coasts, but not quite so cold Friday in the Atlantic States generally.

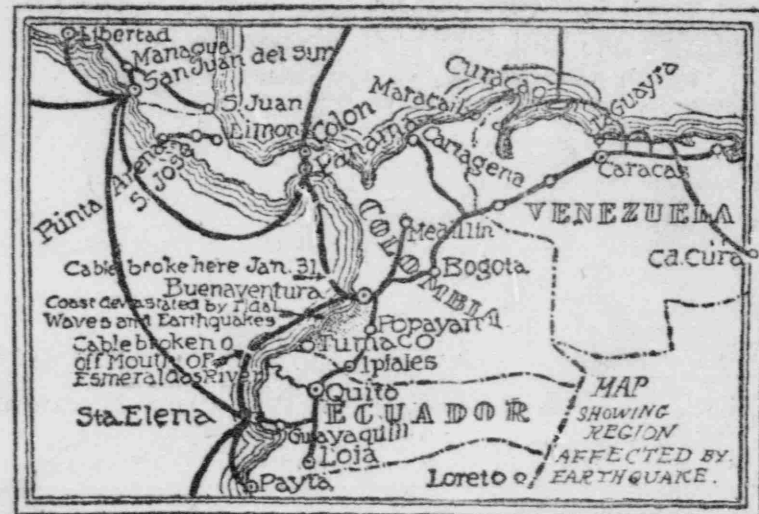
The weather will be mostly fair.

THE SUN.
Sun sets today..... 5:36
Sun rises tomorrow..... 6:36

TIDE TABLE.
High tide today..... 12:17 p.m.
Low tide today..... 6:50 p.m.
High tide tomorrow..... 1:10 a.m., 1:48 p.m.
Low tide tomorrow..... 7:46 a.m., 8:49 p.m.

TOWNS WIPED OUT BY EARTHQUAKE ON COLOMBIAN COAST

Cities Sink Into Earth After Seismic Disturbance--Those Left Are Washed Away by Tidal Wave Following.



PANAMA, Feb. 15.—Earthquakes followed by great tidal waves have destroyed hundreds of lives along the west coast of Colombia and Ecuador.

News of the disaster is coming in slowly and it will be many days before its full extent is known.

The first authentic news comes from Guayaquil, where it was taken by Captain Holmberg, of the Pacific Steam Navigation Line, Quito.

Every Coast Town Gone.

He declares that at Tumaco, he was informed that every coast town between Buenaventura on the north to Tumaco had been wiped out by the tidal wave, and that few of their inhabitants had been saved.

At the village of Guacaca in Colombia more than 200 had perished, while Buenaventura had been practically destroyed by earthquakes and the waves. The loss of life there, he says, has been enormous. Nearly a hundred bodies have been washed out on the beach about Tumaco.

Cumal in Eruption.

The volcano of Cumal in Colombia was in violent eruption on January 1, the date the tidal waves appeared, and doubtless was the cause of them. Earthquakes were almost continuous for more than a week in the interior, as well as along the coast.

Great fissures opened up in the ground, swallowing houses and some instances villages with their inhabitants.

Cable Communication Cut Off by the Quake

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador, Feb. 15.—Captain Holmberg, of the steamship Quito, which has just arrived from Panama via Tumaco, Colombia, reports that it is believed that all of the coast towns between Tumaco and Buenaventura have been entirely destroyed by a tidal wave occasioned by the earthquakes of January 31. In several cases the earth opened, engulfing small buildings. Already seventy bodies have been picked up on the beaches near Tumaco.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—At the offices of the Central and South American Telegraph and Cable Company, it was stated by James R. Beard, the local manager, that a similar cablegram had been received, but as yet no further particulars of the loss of life or of the extent of the damage of the earthquake was available.

It was on January 31 that the cable that is laid between Buenaventura and Panama went out suddenly, and it is

BROADER SERVICE FOR THE SPECIAL DELIVERY

Petitions to This Effect Continue to Reach the Postoffice Department.

More petitions than ever are daily received at the Postoffice Department from all sections of the country that a broader use be made of the special delivery service. A recommendation of that nature was contained in the annual report of Mr. DeGraw, the fourth assistant postmaster general.

The plan evidently has the indorsement of every section of the country, if the correspondence received at the department be taken as a criterion. One correspondent, in advocating an extension of the service, expresses the conviction that a system similar to that in operation in France would not only accelerate business in this country, but would add a large sum to the Government by the cost of delivery is required to be prepaid by postage stamps, and letters or parcels must bear on the cover, distinctly written, the words, "Quick dispatch."

The recommendation of the fourth assistant postmaster general not only provides for authorization of value equivalent to the stamp required for special delivery, but also that additional fees for special delivery be fixed for each mile in excess of a limit of two miles, at 10 cents over and above the required postage.

Expert Packers.

Merchants' Transfer & Storage Co.—Adv.

PRESIDENT GUEST AT BRIDEGROOM'S FAREWELL DINNER

Taft and Cannon, Too, Will Dine With Mr. Longworth.

PRETTY FLAG TRIBUTE

Embassies and Legations Will Fly Colors at Wedding Hour.

President Roosevelt will attend the dinner tonight of his prospective son-in-law, Representative Nicholas Longworth. With Secretary Taft and Speaker Cannon there, too, it will be one of the most notable bachelor dinners ever given by a bridegroom.

The party consisting of President Roosevelt, Secretary Taft, Speaker Cannon, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Thomas Nelson Perkins, of Boston, best man; Quincy Adams Shaw, Jr., Francis R. Quiner, Guy Norman, Larry Anderson, Viscount de Chambrun, Frederick Winthrop, Buckner Wallingford, and others will pledge the bridegroom's health, and undoubtedly some brilliant toasts will be drunk.

Is Big Concession.

Notwithstanding that Representative Longworth is to be the President's son-in-law within two more days, he scored a great point in having the Chief Executive break the ironbound rule that the President shall not dine out of the White House, and Mr. Roosevelt's taking dinner in the Longworth residence tonight is a great concession.

Another dinner party for Miss Roosevelt and Mr. Longworth is that arranged by Major McCawley and the other aides of the White House, who have invited him with his best man and ushers to a dinner at the Alibi Club tomorrow night.

Senator Keen of New Jersey will entertain a large reception tomorrow night in compliance to the out-of-town guests here to attend the wedding, and has invited to meet them the New Jersey delegation of the Senate and House, with many other notable official persons.

Seven Hundred Guests Out of the One

Thousand Invited to Miss Roosevelt's wedding have been accepted, and already nearly 500 presents have arrived, with as many more to come.

Basement Like Packing House.

The basement of the White House presents the appearance of a packing house, so crowded are some of the lower rooms with boxes, paper, excelsior, and other packing materials. No one woman in this country ever received so many or such handsome gifts, even the smallest of which is fitting for a princess of the royal blood.

The procession of express wagons and messenger boys bearing gifts to the White House, which started two or three days ago, continues, and is the source of much interest and amusement to the tourists and citizens who make frequent visits to the grounds for the purpose of speculating on the character of the boxes delivered.

This morning one of the largest single consignments arrived from the Pennsylvania railroad station. It was brought by one of the big automobile express vans, and consisted of a load of packing boxes, large and small, which reached right to the top of the vehicle. When the automobile left the White House it was empty.

All of the wives of the members of the Cabinet will go to the White House this afternoon to look over the gifts so far sent to Miss Roosevelt. A number of the friends of Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Roosevelt will enjoy a like privilege, and tomorrow the presents will be packed for storage.

Tribute of Flags.

A graceful tribute will be paid to the bride Saturday by the Diplomatic Corps. Each of the legations and embassies will hoist the flag of their nations at noon Saturday.

Among the most recent presents to arrive was that from Speaker Cannon and Miss Cannon, a large silver and faience glass vase. Mr. Longworth and the Speaker are close friends, and the gift, while not the most expensive received by any means, will be one of the most treasured.

The Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Newberry have sent pieces of table silver, and in the latest consignment of gifts were several handkerchiefs of lace curtains and bed sets, the latter having full toilet table sets to match.

Elaboration of Wedding

Denounced in Sioux City

SIoux CITY, Iowa, Feb. 15.—Prominent club women of Sioux City, who have been discussing the approaching Longworth-Roosevelt nuptials at their

(Continued on Third Page.)

The daily average net paid circulation of The Washington Times exceeds that of any other Washington paper by thousands of copies.

Yesterday's net circulation was

39,439

SPLENDID GIFT OF TAPESTRY FROM FRANCE TO THE WHITE HOUSE BRIDE



"THE MIDDLE AGES," Grand Piece of Gobelin Tapestry Sent as Wedding Gift to Miss Roosevelt by France.

Not Report On Rate Bill Until Cullom Gets Back

Both Sides Claiming His Vote, But Elkins Says Amendments Have Already Hopelessly Slaughtered Hepburn Measure.

Indications today at the conclusion of the session of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce were that when the committee finally votes on a railroad rate bill the entire membership may be present.

It is accepted that no vote on this proposition will be reached tomorrow, and the game of delay, which has been played so effectively by the opponents of the measure up to this time, may now become the role of its advocates, who are anxious that Senator Cullom should be here before a vote is taken on the bill or on the vital amendments.

It is promised that Senator Cullom will be back in Washington sometime next week. His health is much improved according to recent telegrams, but it will be impossible for him to be here tomorrow.

Both Claiming Him.

Both sides claim his support on the question of amending the bill in the right of appeal and judicial review before the Interstate Commission's rate shall take effect. But the weight of evidence seems to be on the side of those who oppose such an amendment.

One of the Senators this morning indicated the opinion that a vote taken before Senator Cullom's return would develop a tie, and he therefore believed there was a fair chance of getting a majority to bring out the House bill without this critical amendment provided the test were delayed until Senator Cullom's return.

Slaughtered, Says Elkins.

Senator Elkins expressed the opinion this morning that the Hepburn-Dolliver bill has practically been slaughtered by the showing of strength on the multitude of amendments that has been offered. If the final test develops that this is true, he will then press his own bill, in the belief that it will afford the best chance of agreement.

Advocates of the House bill have lost no confidence in the stand of the President in the matter of the bill, but they are not able to command a majority.

Wanted: More Factories In District of Columbia

Board of Trade Committee Believes Rational Location, With Certain Restrictions, Would Prove Beneficial to Washington.

The committee on commerce and manufactures of the Washington Board of Trade, at a meeting yesterday afternoon, placed itself squarely on record in favor of encouraging the establishment of manufactures in the District, and appointed a committee to make a further investigation of the subject.

The resolution adopted, favoring the establishment of manufactures, limited these new industries to portions of the District outside the city limits and the limits of suburban residence sections. Under these restrictions it was declared manufacturers will be wholly beneficial in their influence upon the life of the community.

Subcommittee Will Investigate.

The subcommittee which will investigate further and report to the general committee next Monday is headed by John L. Weaver. A meeting of the board of trade is to be held on February 23, when the general committee will properly report.

T. W. Smith was one of the most enthusiastic advocates of the resolution, and championed its cause with so much earnestness that he converted several of the lukewarm. When the objection was made that the introduction of manufacturing establishments on a large scale would bring an undesirable class of cheap labor to the District, Mr. Smith had an instant answer.

"That class of labor is already here," he retorted; "the only trouble is that

RATE LEGISLATION IS WORRYING BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE

Important Scenes in Struggle Are Yet to Be Enacted.

CONFEREES ARE PUZZLED

May Yet Remain for Roosevelt to Leap Into the Breach.

Important scenes in the struggle over railroad legislation remain yet to be enacted.

Senator Knox, who is not a member of the Interstate Commerce Committee, remarked the other day that it made little difference what this Senate committee did, since the bill itself would be made in the open Senate.

This is likely to be true so far as the Senate goes, but this is not the final stage of legislation. What becomes of the House with its nearly unanimous vote for a different sort of a measure?

Ordinarily, in such a situation, the conference committee would make the bill. The six men who serve in that capacity on this railroad measure will have an interesting task before them; there will be three parties in interest—the Senate, the House, and the President. It will be their business to perfect in final details a measure that will receive the approval of Mr. Roosevelt.

House members possessed of overwhelming Republican majorities cannot afford to invite a veto from a Republican President; the Republican party never does things that way. Thus, although he has officially no relation to the conference, he will prove a large factor in its work.

Hard to Draw Party Lines.

In legislation of a partisan character, the struggling in behalf of the two houses is done by the two conferees from each body who represent the majority party. If a tariff bill were in conference between the two houses today, the Democrats would be called in only as a formal matter, and the Republicans would be understood that the four Republicans, two from each house, must settle whatever points were in dispute.

In this railroad battle it is hard to see how party lines can be effectively drawn in conference. The three House members will be supposed to stand for the House idea, embodied in the Hepburn bill; the three Senate members, stand for the Senate idea, embodied in the provisions for court review and such other means as the Senate may take to render the measure ineffective to railroad operators and freed from all danger to railroad investors.

If this were ordinary legislation there would be at the conference stage the material for a very pretty fight. The House does not need to back down, even if its conferees should. The House may reject any agreement which its managers might make in conference. Such a tentative agreement goes into the House in the form of a recommendation.

Hepburn's Embarrassment.

Colonel Hepburn, heading the House conferees, finds himself in an embarrassing position. Railroad representatives in this city discuss him as the type of the railroad apostate—the man who, in a tight place, surrenders to the clamor of his district, turning his back upon the affiliations of a life.

Hepburn represents one of the strongest granger districts in the United States. He had a hard fight on his hands two years ago, when the issue was the degree of his sincerity in railroad legislation, and he had to carry out there a testimony from the President to save himself. He will have the same fight on his hands this time. The prospect is not bright.

He made a member of the new Interstate Commerce Commission, in case he lost his district, and he is now in a position to save his district to be eligible to Presidential appointment in that capacity.

Work of Conferees Hidden.

So much sincerity has characterized this whole railroad controversy that it is hard to know what the conferees will do. Their work is always hidden from public view. Constituents in granger districts will know how their member voted "on the Hepburn bill," and what he said in a formal speech, but they will be less informed as to the significance of his really critical votes in accepting recommendations of the managers on the part of the House on the disagreeing vote of the two houses.

In which messages appertaining to the conference are usually couched. It was noticeable when Littlefield made his famous attack on the Hepburn bill with what unmixt delight a score of Western Representatives, who did not care to lose that way, listened approvingly to what he had to say. They can vote more nearly as they smile when the conference stage is reached.

If the House members really meant business on the Hepburn bill, which they have passed, they could make a short work of any "conservative plan" that the Senate might develop. They do not have to agree to anything, unless they want to do so. What would be the penalty of refusing to agree? The whole measure would be dropped. If there be no railroad legislation, this is not an item in a general appropriation bill, upon which an agreement "must be reached."

If the House positively refused to accept any Senate plan, and the Senate was equally stubborn, how would the deadlock be broken? The House could refuse to adjourn until there was legislation. The President could announce his purpose to call Congress in extra session immediately after adjournment, in case this was done.

First-Class Quarrel.

The material for a first-class quarrel would be made out of this, as it may be asserted, in which it would not be the President's house that was on fire. He does not want another term. One-third